

405
807/36
75

A True

RELATION

Of the Extraordinary

Thunder & Lightning,

Which lately happened in the

N O R T H

O F

IRELAND:

As it was sent to *Dublin* in several *Letters* to

Persons of Quality.

With the sad Effects of the Fall of a

CLOUD.

DUBLIN Printed 1680.

46A



Newton-Stewart the 29th. of June 1680.

THere has happened near this place so strange and sad an accident, that I think the like has been seldom known; On *Saturday* last about 10 of the Clock in the day, we heard much thunder which 15 miles from hence made many great breaches in a Mountain, and such spouts of water fell upon the places so broken up, that the flood hurried the loosened earth with it to the bottom, and swelled a brook which ran there (and which comes into the River by this place) so suddenly and so high, that it carried away all that stood before it; people who lived near the bank had not time to get out of their houses, but with goods, houses and all were swept along with it and perished, the beasts that fed near it were lost, the very fish were stifled by the earth which the current brought with it, great quantities of Salmon, of Trouts, Lampreys (which I never saw here before) even the Eels that live in mud were choked and thrown dead upon the shore. And I do not believe there is one fish alive in the River from the Mountains to the Sea. My curiosity took me yesterday to the place where this new kind of deluge began, and truly I was amazed to see a mountain torn in above 10 several places, and all the low ground by the River for 10 miles together cover'd with the Ruins, the Corn-fields buried, and the people crouching in the mud and earth for the bodies of their Friends and of their Cattle. I cannot yet learn exactly how many have perished, but by the accounts that are given, there are lost in several places 50 Souls, and abundance of Cattle.

S I R,

A Prodigious accident fell in *Monterlony* on *Saturday* the 26th. of this instant *June*, a Thunderclap forced the bowels of a great mountain belonging to one *Glenn-wilton*, after which ensued the fall of a prodigious Cloud, which entering the vitues of the said mountain made by the Thunder, its weight bore the greatest part of mountain before it, which made such a deluge of puddle, that that part of it which into *Glenally* water that runs towards *Newton-Stewart*, drowned 19 persons in their he turned the whole vallies for 8 or 9 miles in length that were meadows and Corn in Desart of Dirt a foot thick, and hath killed all the fish in the River for 20 miles in le the other half of this Cloud fell into the *Rew water*, that runs through the Cour *Londanderry*, has drowned 31 persons, and forced away the *Stonebridge* at *Limanay*.

Lon.

466
Londonderry the 30th. of June 1680.

I Presume you will have the following news more at large than here I give you. On *Saturday* last happened a very great Thunder with Hail and Rain in these parts but especially about 16 or 20 miles from hence, insomuch that it hath not onely tore up a Mountain of near two hundred Acres, but the Cloud breaking thereon, hath carried a part of the surface of the Earth in that compass into all the Rivers round about, but withall hath carried away several houses and families, insomuch that of Men, Women and children already above thirty Corps is found, and many more is believed to be lost. Of a suddain the waters arose between the Mountains 14 fathom high. In that part where the Mountain was, one Woman was left alive, who gave an account of the Dreadfulness thereof, which she saith was as well by Hailstones of an incredible bigness as by the Vain Cloud coming down at once, that she by a wonderful providence escap'd, and had it been in the night many hundred persons more had been destroyed as well as their houses, and great numbers of Cattle drowned. All Fish for several miles up the River are destroyed by the blackness and muddiness of the water which the surface of that mountain made, of Salmon above 7 or 8 hundred found already dead on the shore, of Eels and all other small fresh water fish infinite numbers destroyed, that it is, nor cannot be believed in those rivers one fish is left alive, 'Tis too tedious to relate the whole matter, but it is as dreadful to this Countrey as you can imagine, by being much worse than I here give you.

New-Hall the 28th of June 1680.

ON *Saturday* last about 12 at noon, it began here to thunder and rain, which continued for 3 hours incessantly, the river swelled suddenly, and did so overflow all the banks, and coming down so impetuously, it brought with it an infinite deal of Timber, Sticks, Straw, and Rubbish, which gathering together at the side of our Bridge, and having no vent, it overthrew, and there is not one stick left. I understande that the thunder began above *Dongiven*, and there a thunder bolt fell upon a hill, tore it down, which mingling with the Rain, it rather fell like a great spout, and was tumbling upon a house belonging to *Aveny O Caban* the Father of *Shane O Caban* a Tory, and in a moment overthrew it, and carried all away with it, and *Aveny* his wife and five Children and four friends were drowned, with all their Cows, sheep, and Horses, and among them a Child in a Cradle, which Cradle, with many other household goods and timber of houses did help to choak and overthrow the Bridge. A Boy told me that he saw the thunderbolt fall, which with grate flames and flashes tore the ground, and all the day after none could go near the place for the smell of Brimstone: he sayes there fell also hailstones of a strange size and shape, some like pieces of Candles, some like great buttons with sharp points; within a few miles of that place 18 persons were found drowned in one heap, and several about *Newton-Stewart*, but the mischief is not yet all known. After this it is a small thing to tell you all the meadows about this town are spoiled, and all the Corn from hence to the Rivers mouth, and which is wonderful about *Derry* and *Colraine* was nothing, but an ordinarie shower; at *Blaherae* and thereabouts clear wheather.

FINIS.

15

On
but
p a
a l
tha
hil-
of a
the
neff
Vat
ad id
ufes
de-
tain
d a
d in
is c
we i

co
lov
al c
Ne
tand
hil
and
abas
very
ows
y c
ridg
tore
one
dles
rson
iefi
thi
won
erae